

(d) the action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for the said commodities was approved from 28th January, 1997 to 15th March, 1997. The Government of Himachal Pradesh has so far not furnished the audited accounts in accordance with the approved Market Intervention Scheme. After receiving the same, the Central Government share of loss will be reimbursed.

Increase in the rates of GIA for flowing water units

3283. SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some proposals regarding increase in the rates of GIA/ Assistance for flowing water units and c/o ponds were received from Government of Himachal Pradesh in December, 1997;

(b) whether these proposals were under Fish Farmers Development Agency;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government propose to approve these proposals early in the interest of development of Himachal Pradesh; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Government of India received a proposal from the Government of Himachal Pradesh in January, 1998 regarding increase in the rates of Central assistance for flowing water units and for construction of ponds.

(b) and (c) The above mentioned proposal was under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "Development of Freshwater Aquaculture" being implemented through Fish Farmers Development Agencies in the States/UTs. It was proposed by the State Government that the unit cost for the construction of new ponds may be enhanced from Rs. 1.0 lakh per ha. to Rs. 2.037 lakh per ha. Similarly, for the running water fish culture, the rates may be enhanced from Rs. 10,634 per unit of 110-120 sq. meters to Rs. 20,303 per unit.

(d) and (e) Based on suggestions received from different States including Himachal Pradesh, the Government of India has already revised the above mentioned scheme in the current financial year. Now, the expenditure on developomental activities will be shared on 75:25 basis between the Government of India and the State Governments instead of the previous 50:50 ratio. Besides ongoing components, some new components such as creation of freshwater prawn seed hatcheries, and diagnostic laboratories, etc. have been introduced to meet emerging requirements. Unit cost as well as subsidy amount for the construction of new ponds and running water fish culture has been revised as follows:

Unit cost and subsidy amount which was applicable under the scheme upto 31.3.2000	Revised unit cost and subsidy amount which is applicable under the scheme from 1.4.2000
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1. Construction of new ponds and tanks

Rs. 1 lakh per ha. Subsidy @20% with a maximum ceiling of Rs. 20,000 per ha. for all farmers excepts Schedule Tribe farmers for whom it was Rs. 40,000 per ha. (40%)

Rs. 2.0 lakh per ha. in the plain areas. Subsidy @ 20% with a maximum ceiling of Rs. 40,000 per ha. for all farmers except SCs/STs for whom it is Rs. 50,000 per ha. (25%).

Rs. 3.0 lakh per ha. in the hill States/ Districts and North-Eastern region. Subsidy @ 20% with a maximum ceiling of Rs. 37,500 per ha. for all farmers except SCs/STs for whom it is Rs. 46,875 per ha. (25%).

2. Running Water Fish Culture

Rs. 8,000 per unit of 1500 sq. feet (110-120sq meters). Subsidy @ 25% with a maximum ceiling of Rs. 2,000 per unit for all farmers except STs for whom it was Rs. 4,000 per unit (50%).

Rs. 20,000 per unit of 100 sq. meters. The above cost is inclusive of Rs. 4,000 towards inputs. Subsidy @ 20% with a maximum ceiling of Rs. 4000 per unit for all farmers except SCs/STs for whom it is Rs. 5,000 per unit (25%). Maximum ceiling of 3 unit for each farmer in terms of admissibility of grant.

The State of Himachal Pradesh can avail the benefits under this revised scheme.